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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/719,121	11/21/2003	John W. Carter		1802
7590	10/13/2006		EXAMINER	
Donald S. Gardner Van Dyke, Gardner, Linn & Burkhart, LLP 2851 Charlevoix Drive, S.E. P.O. Box 888695 Grand Rapids, MI 49588-8695			PEDDER, DENNIS H	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			3612	
			DATE MAILED: 10/13/2006	

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.



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APPLICATION NO./ CONTROL NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR / PATENT IN REEXAMINATION	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
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10 719 121

EXAMINER

ART UNIT	PAPER
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20061006

DATE MAILED:

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Commissioner for Patents

Please read the attached office action.

Dennis H. Pedder
Primary Examiner
Art Unit: 3612

Art Unit: 3612

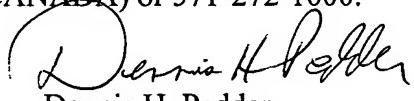
1. The reply filed on 9/29/2006 is not fully responsive to the prior Office Action because: no identification of the “attachment element” and/or “attachment member” and “elongated member” is attempted in the response of 9/29/2006. Amendment to the claims does not clarify what applicant intends for these claimed terms and examination cannot be conducted as a guessing game as to the intentions of applicant. Applicant should specifically point out specification language and specific location in support of the claimed terminology in order that examination may proceed. Since the period for reply set forth in the prior Office action has expired, this application will become abandoned unless applicant corrects the deficiency and obtains an extension of time under 37 CFR 1.136(a).

The date on which the petition under 37 CFR 1.136(a) and the appropriate extension fee have been filed is the date for purposes of determining the period of extension and the corresponding amount of the fee. In no case may an applicant reply outside the SIX (6) MONTH statutory period or obtain an extension for more than FIVE (5) MONTHS beyond the date for reply set forth in an Office action. A fully responsive reply must be timely filed to avoid abandonment of this application.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Dennis H. Pedder whose telephone number is (571) 272-6667. The examiner can normally be reached on 5:30-2:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner’s supervisor, Glenn D. Dayoan can be reached on (571) 272-6659. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.


Dennis H. Pedder
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 3612
10/6/06

DHP
10/6/2006